




Speech By
Hon. Mark Bailey

MEMBER FOR YEERONGPILLY

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Road Safety

 **Hon. MC BAILEY** (Yeerongpilly—ALP) (Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply) (2.40 pm): The Palaszczuk government is committed to reducing the burden of road trauma on our communities. This week has been a tragic one on our roads. Several fatal accidents on Monday saw the 2015 road toll exceed the toll for 2014, and there is still a month to go. Our ultimate vision is zero deaths and serious injuries on the road network. It makes no sense to aim for anything else. To guide that vision, earlier this year I launched the Safer Roads, Safer Queensland strategy and action plan. That road map represents the culmination of ideas generated by road safety experts and practitioners at the Safer Roads, Safer Queensland forum held in April this year. Over the next two years we will be working through 57 initiatives, which we have already started delivering with our partners.

Tragically, this year motorcycle riders have been overrepresented in road crashes. To help address that, we have launched a motorcycle safety campaign, The Perfect Ride, including website materials and tutorials, as part of Join the Drive to Save Lives. In August we released a discussion paper about proposed reforms to motorcycle licensing. We are responding to more than 1,000 public submissions and they will be published online later this week.

In July and September, over 100 young people from across Queensland participated in the CO-LAB youth road safety innovation challenge to brainstorm youth initiated road safety issues and responses impacting on their generation. In October I announced the winners and TMR is now working with the winning team of young people to fund and implement a targeted, online youth safety campaign targeting young male drivers who are our highest risk demographic on the roads.

As part of our response to the April forum, we have also formed a citizens task force of everyday Queenslanders, who will make recommendations to government about how incentives could be used to encourage safe driving. Over two weekends last month, the citizens task force met and prepared recommendations in relation to incentives, road safety targets and drink and drug driving. Of course, on 1 September 2015 double demerit points were introduced for repeat mobile phone offences committed within one year of the first earlier offence. From 29 June this year we commenced a tougher practical driving test. The enhancements place a stronger emphasis on higher-risk manoeuvres and safer driving skills for learner drivers.

Under the Community Road Safety Grants program, more than \$1 million will be shared across 40 Queensland schools, community groups and councils to improve road safety in their local area. Over the next two years, we will deliver more than \$500 million on road safety programs, including improved road infrastructure targeting the highest risk locations. This includes rolling out wide centre-line treatments, which is an award-winning lifesaving treatment on the Queensland road network. Members can see it already on the Bruce Highway and a number of other highways. In this term of government, we are also rolling out 300 flashing light sets outside Queensland schools.

In August, with the Minister for Police I was pleased to launch the statewide Road Safety Week in partnership with the Queensland Police Service. Statewide road safety campaigns continued with the launch of the Distractions Campaign in August and a new drink driving campaign is planned for the Christmas-New Year festive season. Government cannot reduce the road toll alone. We will continue to work with Queenslanders to make travelling on our roads as safe as possible. I call on all Queenslanders to be safe every time they get behind the wheel.